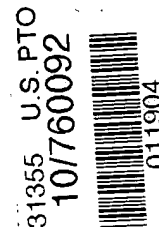
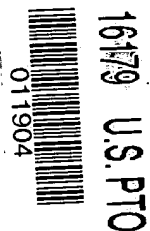


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January 19, 2004

Mail Stop Patent Application  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Re: U.S. Patent Application  
Applicants: Mitsuhiro HIRABAYASHI, Fumitaka KAWATE, Toshihiro  
ISHIZAKA  
Our Ref.: 450100-04887

Dear Sir:

Enclosed are papers constituting the above patent application which is being filed under 37 C.F.R. 1.53 without a signed Declaration. Please accord a filing date and a serial number to such application and inform the undersigned thereof so that a signed Declaration and the surcharge required by 37 C.F.R. 1.16(e) may be duly filed.

Please address all correspondence to:

William S. Frommer, Esq.  
FROMMER LAWRENCE & HAUG LLP  
745 Fifth Avenue  
New York, New York 10151

Respectfully,

William S. Frommer  
Reg. No. 25,506  
Attorney for Applicants  
Enclosures

J:\SONY\04887\53BAPUNS.EXM (WSF:sar)

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16179 U.S. PTO  
011904

Patent Application Transmittal  
(only for new nonprovisional applications under 37 C.F.R. 1.53(b))

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Date: January 19, 2004  
Attorney Docket No.: 450100-04887

Mail Stop Patent Application  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

With reference to the filing in the United States Patent and Trademark Office of an application for patent in the name(s) of:

Mitsuhiro HIRABAYASHI, Fumitaka KAWATE, Toshihiro ISHIZAKA

entitled:

RECORDING APPARATUS, REPRODUCTION APPARATUS, AND FILE MANAGEMENT METHOD

The following are enclosed:

- ☒ Specification ( 102 pages)  
☒ 35 Sheet(s) of Drawings  
☒ 43 Claim(s) (including 18 independent claim(s))  
☐ This application contains a multiple dependent claim

- ☒ Our check for \$ 2474.00, calculated on the basis of the claims as amended by any enclosed preliminary amendment as follows:

Basic Fee, \$770.00 (\$385.00)	\$ 770.00
Number of Claims in excess of 20 at \$18.00 (\$9.00) each:23	414.00
Number of Independent Claims in excess of 3 at \$86.00 (\$43.00) each:15	1290.00
Multiple Dependent Claim Fee at \$290.00 (\$145.00)	-0-
Total Filing Fee	\$ 2474.00
Assignment Recording Fee \$40.00	-0-

- ☒ Oath or Declaration and Power of Attorney  
☒ New ☐ signed ☒ unsigned  
☐ Copy from a prior application (37 C.F.R. 1.63(d))  
☒ Certified copy of each of the following application(s) to substantiate the claim(s) for priority made in the Declaration:

<u>Application No.</u>	<u>Filed</u>	<u>In</u>
2003-011827	21 January 2003	Japan

Please charge any additional fees required for the filing of this application or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

Respectfully submitted,

FROMMER LAWRENCE & HAUG LLP  
Attorneys for Applicants

20999

By William S. Frommer  
William S. Frommer  
Reg. No. 25,506

"Express Mail" mailing label number EV287825300US

Date of Deposit January 19, 2004

I hereby certify that this paper or fee, and a patent application and accompanying papers, are being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and are addressed to the Mail Stop Patent Application, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Saddam Ahmed

(Typed or printed name of person mailing paper or fee)

S. Ahmed

(Signature of person mailing paper or fee)